

It is satisfactory to note, now that this law has been decided upon, that the legalised 'chick' or foot measure is being properly enforced. The weights and measures having been notified satisfactorily, it would be a work of public utility to look closely into the kind of food sold to the poor classes. It may not be fraudulent to sell provisions of inferior quality, etc., at a low price; but it ought to be made a necessity that a fuller and closer inspection be made of the food sold. That is a want in Hongkong which ought to be seen to.

Now that the Redistribution Bill has passed the House of Commons, that august body has already begun to consider its own dissolution. We do not exactly comprehend why a special Bill is necessary to enable Parliament to dissolve itself, as a dissolution is usually announced by Royal proclamation, and necessarily follows every material extension of the franchise. The Reform Bill of 1884 comes into force on the 1st of January 1886, and the additional two millions of voters will, it is presumed, exercise their rights in returning the new House of Commons. The introduction of the Bill providing for a dissolution being fixed for November next, the actual dissolution will probably take place about Christmas; and the month of January will therefore be a busy time at home, when all the lively accompaniments of a general election will doubtless be fully represented. The chief point of interest to residents in Hongkong will, of course, be what kind of Cabinet will be most likely to represent the views of the new Parliament; and for that information we must wait.

After much discussion, the authorities of San Francisco have opened a school for the education in English of Chinese children. In one or two instances, recently Chinese have endeavoured to force their children into schools for the education of white children, and the attempt has not with most decided opposition, the dispute being taken before the Courts for settlement. The Courts, of course, decided in favour of the Chinese. At this point, the Board of Education came to the front and rescued the white schools from an invasion of the heathen children, much to the relief of many horrified parents and teachers. They provided a school especially set apart for the education of Chinese children in English, and the Chinese who fought against the expulsion of their children from the white schools have refrained from insisting on what the Courts have declared to be their rights. A great deal of animosity and bitterness has been engendered by the dispute, and probably the Chinese by withdrawing from the contest have acted wisely. On the opening morning, says a San Francisco contemporary, seventeen desks, one blackboard, several charts, a table strewed with ink and different sized copy-books, a chair and a schoolmistress, one Chinese boy and one Chinese girl, composed the paraphernalia of the new Chinese school. In the afternoon, the attendance increased to six.

It is announced that the new German possessions on the north coast of New Guinea have been officially named Kaiser Wilhelm's Land, Friedrich Wilhelm's Hafen, and Prinz Heinrich's Hafen.

The fact that the *Mohican*, the new war vessel now fitting out at Mare Island Navy Yard, is six inches wider on one side than the other was recently discovered by the riggers in preparing to set up the rigging. The cause of this disparity, it is presumed, was that the frame of the vessel was so long on the stocks—some ten years—when it settled imperceptibly on one side, a portion of the ground on which the keel blocks and supporting timbers rested being made ground.

Abiram, a Cairo paper, is informed that the forces of the Mahdi are increasing every day, as is also his influence over the Sudanese, who are united as a single man in fighting for freedom. This journal is of opinion that the task of subduing them by England is a very difficult one, but that it would be easy for an Oriental power, under the command of an experienced Moslem, to bring them to reason.

An Imperial Decree has been issued announcing that the Captains of the gunboats *Yi-yuen* and *Ching-ching*, which were sunk at Sheppoo last December, are to be sent to the military post-roads as soon as the arms and ammunition have been raised up from the submerged vessels; and that the first officer of the *Ching-ching*, who is now at large, is to be strictly searched for by the various Viceroys and Governors, and decapitated immediately upon his capture. *N.-C. D. News.*

A Correspondent writes to the *N.-C. D. News* in reference to the question about the origin of the word 'boy' for a servant:— 'There is a Hindustani word usually romanized *boy*, and translated 'brother,' though its meaning is evidently more than that of 'brother' in the sense in which Mohammedans call every male member of their community a brother, in the sense of a son of one's own parents. If a man finds his cook-room in Calcutta full of men, and then asks his cook who all the people are, he invariably replies that they are his *boys*. The word 'boy' is not used for a servant in Calcutta, but I have found it used in Madras, which I believe, rather than the former place, is the source of such Indian words and customs as have got to China, and friends in Madras whom I asked about the origin of the word as used by them told me they regarded it as a corruption of the word *brother*, the assimilating of the sound of a new word by the early English settlers to that of a word already familiar being no unnatural or uncommon act.' Another Correspondent says:— 'In Bombay a native palanquin-bearer, called *dhoo*, which is distinct from the term applied to ordinary servants.'

A TELEGRAM has been received from Tientsin to the effect that General Wu Ta-sheng is to be deprived of his post as Assistant Commissioner of Poy Yang Coast Defences; also, that Chang Fei-lun is to receive brevet of the third rank and to be sent to Russia on service. It is but a short time ago that Chang Fei-lun was condemned to the military post-roads for cowardice, misrepresentation, and other offences against the State. That he should have been pardoned is greatly to be regretted; however, a visit to Europe may make him a soberer and less conceited man. Russia, meanwhile, may be congratulated on the honour done her, as Chang is apparently destined to a high office there—if the news is true. *N.-C. D. News.*

The *Straits Times* gives an extraordinary instance of the unreliability of circumstantial evidence which has just been brought to light. In May 1882, Teo Toh Kian, the Chinese supercargo of the schooner *Mahomed Buz*, owned by a Chinese man in Singapore, disappeared from the vessel, and was supposed to have been thrown overboard at sea, and on being tried at the Assizes in September 1882, evidence was forthcoming proving beyond a reasonable doubt that the man had been thrown overboard at sea, the three Malays being sentenced to imprisonment for life. Within the past week, however, the Chinese has turned up again, alive and well, and has confessed that he absconded from the vessel with the money. One of the Malays died in prison, after having been imprisoned for about two years. The other two, named Seeman and Hassan, were instantly released by the Government, the Chinese being taken in custody; and it is probable that proceedings will be instituted against the persons who trumped up the charge of murder against these innocent men.

In a recent number of the *New York Herald*, the following reference is made to the hardship entailed by an order issued in 1883 affecting the wives of officers in the U.S. Navy:—

An appeal will be made to Secretary Whitney to revoke the order issued by him, lately, detaching Chief Engineer Trilley, Lieut. Carmany, of the *Albatross*, and Assistant Paymaster Corwin, from their respective ships in the Asiatic Squadron. These gentlemen have been detached for the violation of an order issued by Secretary Chandler, July 5, 1883. This order forbade the wives of naval officers following their husbands to foreign stations, where they may be detailed to go. This has caused a great deal of complaint in the service. There is no better protection for the morality and health of the officers upon foreign service than to have their wives with them. In the three particular cases mentioned at the outset of this despatch, the only offense of the officers was that they had their wives at Shanghai, where the vessels of the squadron are now stationed. The officers are not ordered home. They are placed upon the shore of Asia upon what is practically half-pay with out any means of transportation home. In the case of the Assistant Paymaster, his pay upon waiting orders is about \$1,200. It will take nearly a year's pay for him to defray the expense of a journey back to America. It has been said by the friends of these gentlemen that if they had seen fit to have women with them who were not their wives they would not have been subject to naval discipline.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the members of the Legislative Council was held this afternoon, when there were present:—H. E. the Governor (President); Hon. W. H. Marsh, Colonial Secretary; Hon. E. L. O'Malley, the Attorney General; Hon. A. Lister, Colonial Treasurer; Hon. J. M. Price, Surveyor General; Hon. F. S. Stewart, Registrar General; Hon. P. Ryrie; Hon. T. Jackson, Hon. F. D. Sassoon, and Hon. Wong Shin. Absent:—Hon. Sir G. Phillip, Chief Justice (on leave); and Hon. W. Keewick.

FEES FOR BILLS OF HEALTH.
The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following minute:—Referring to the despatch of the Secretary of State No. 67 of 1885, the Governor requests the Legislative Council to consider the amount of the present allowance to be paid to Dr Ayres and to Dr Adams, respectively, in lieu of the fees received by them for issuing Bills of Health.

It is proposed that hereafter Bills of Health shall be issued by the Health Officer *ex officio* for a fee of \$3 (three dollars) to be paid into the Colonial Treasury. It will be necessary to recoup the amount of the personal allowances to Dr Ayres and Dr Adams; but when this object has been attained, it is proposed to reduce the fees to a still lower amount, covering only the necessary expenses of the Government.

QUARANTINE MARKED ON STONECUTTERS' ISLAND.
A minute by the Governor was laid on the table recommending the Council to vote a sum of \$500, for the reconstruction of an hospital marked on Stonecutters' Island for quarantine purposes.

MURRAY PIER TO BE REPAIRED AND EXTENDED.

Another minute by the Governor recommended the Council to grant a supplementary vote of \$3,500, to defray the cost of renovating the damaged portion of Murray Pier, and extending it into deep water so that it may be approached by launches when the tide is ebbing. This, says the minute, is the pier at which nearly all the strangers of distinction and the officers of the army and navy land.

A NARRATIVE OF THE 'CHIEF'.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote \$38, 5s. 10d., the cost of fitting the steam launch *Charles May* with a Northern field gun.

MINUTES REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, the

above minutes were referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

THE FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.
The Attorney General moved and the Colonial Secretary seconded, the second reading of a bill making temporary provision for securing to French mail steamers the status of men-of-war in this harbour until the 1st September 1886.

The Hon. P. Ryrie said:—I think we are giving the French mail steamers very great privileges by this ordinance. I am not aware whether or not we can obtain it by law, in any way, but I certainly think some assurance should be given that the French men-of-war will not interfere with vessels carrying Her Britannic Majesty's mails. I think it absurd that these steamers should have these privileges, and that British mail steamers should be interfered with as one was lately, an net which was very unfavourably commented upon in this Colony.

His Excellency:—I will make representations to that effect when I send the bill home. I will ask the Home Government to take the question up.

The bill was then read a second time. The Attorney General gave notice that at next meeting he would move that they go into committee upon the bill.

THE PRESERVATION OF BIRDS AND GAME.

The Attorney General moved and the Colonial Secretary seconded, a bill making provision for regulating the pursuit and killing of birds and game. The object of the ordinance was to make fresh regulations for controlling the pursuit and killing of game on the island, with a view of encouraging the creation and preservation of game in the Colony.

The Colonial Secretary seconded, and the bill was read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council was adjourned until this day week.

THE FIELD PRACTICE AT KOWLOON.

The field firing which took place yesterday afternoon at Kowloon was not, and could not be expected to be, so interesting as a spectacle to the public generally as the sham fight which took place a week ago. The exercise was, however, no doubt of great value to the men both of the Volunteer Artillery and the Buffs, but it is a question whether the benefit derived was in proportion to the inconvenience caused in the district which was the scene of the operations, and the extra work thrown upon the Police force, by the necessary preparations and precautions involved. The field of operations, which had to be strictly guarded, extended from the Kowloon Barracks to the hill behind Hung-ham, with an average breadth of about half a mile. The ground was marked out by red flags, and so efficiently patrol the borders of this considerable area required the services of over one hundred constables; Europeans, Indians and Chinese. The several detachments were under the orders of Inspectors Cradock, Thomson, Matheson and Quincey, while the Captain Superintendent of Police and Captain Dempster, Adjutant, generally supervised the arrangements, which proved in every way satisfactory. The natives of the village of To Pa-tai and other hamlets situated on the battlefield, were induced for the afternoon to shut up their houses and retreat to the hill tops, where tea and other refreshments were provided for them at Government expense. By 4 p.m. the battlefield was deserted by all its inhabitants; even the cattle and buffaloes of the villagers having been driven into some quiet nooks 'secure from war's alarms.' Most of the spectators, of whom however there were nothing like so many as on the last occasion, were posted on the Observatory hill, the ridge behind the Barracks and the high knoll at the back of the naval range.

About 4.30 the Volunteers, under the command of Col. Crawford, R.A., Major Tripp, Captain Francis and Lieut. Mosely, landed at Tsim-tai-toi and took up a position with two 7-pounder mountain guns which they had manned, upon the hill in rear of the officers' quarters at the Kowloon Barracks. The imaginary enemy, who were supposed to be retreating in a leisurely manner towards Kowloon City, were represented by some large canvas targets on the left of the position supposed to be a column of infantry, six targets of about 8 ft. square on the right, representing a battery of artillery, and a number of smaller targets in two lines in advance of the larger ones, supposed to be lines of skirmishers covering the retreat.

The Volunteers opened fire with shrapnel shell, first at the line of skirmishers and afterwards at the battery of artillery and the main column. The range not being known the first shots fell short, but afterwards some of the shells were very well placed, doing considerable execution among the dummies.

In the meanwhile the 'Buffs,' in strength about 500 rank and file, had landed and come up to the support of the artillery, two companies having been also marched round by the right to attack the flank of the enemy. Rifle firing was then commenced and was kept up with considerable spirit. After firing six rounds from each gun from their first position, the artillery advanced about 250 yards and opened fire again, which was continued until they had finished their ten rounds of ammunition each. The 'Buffs' continued to advance upon the enemy until within about 200 yards of the first line of skirmishers, when a withering fire was poured in from the front and right flank by which the enemy were supposed to be annihilated. The troops then formed in order of march and proceeded to the landing-place at Tsim-tai-toi.

Major-General Cameron, previous to the main leaving, said it afforded him great pleasure to see the Volunteers co-operating with the regular in such manoeuvres. As he

had had to do with about 70,000 volunteers at home in the Northern District, he knew something about them. He never before trusted Volunteers in work of this kind in conjunction with the regulars, however, but he had been given to understand that the Volunteers in this colony had been brought into a very creditable state of efficiency, and so he trusted them to take part in work of this kind. The proof of the pudding was in the eating, and he thought this fact said more for the Volunteers than any amount of flattering things he might say. He was glad to see them work their small guns so well. A good deal, as they would see, was to be learned by these drills. There had been mistakes made in the ranges, and they would probably all have been killed before they got the enemy's range, but of course these were things they had to learn. There were many places which afforded good opportunities for dummy practice, such as Stanley Gap, Victoria Gap, and other places, and he hoped soon to have some practice there. He hoped soon to see the Volunteers at large gun practice, for that was their province.

The General also told Captain Deane that he desired to express to him and his officers and men his great satisfaction at the efficient manner in which the ground had been kept. He had not thought it possible that the large area over which the operations extended could have been kept so clear throughout the afternoon.

Amongst the spectators who viewed the proceedings from the Observatory Hill were H. E. Sir George Bowen and his *Aide-de-camp*, the Misses Cameron, Hon. P. Ryrie, Hon. E. L. O'Malley, &c., &c.

Previous to the Volunteers being dismissed at Headquarters, Capt. Francis addressed the men on behalf of Major Tripp, who was not then present. He thanked those who had mustered for their attendance, and regretted that there had not been a larger number. As Major-General Cameron had said, there was much to learn, and though they appeared to be very efficient as far as the drill went, they had yet to learn a good deal with regard to the real work of firing. He was glad to say the work they had done that afternoon was very good.

FIRE IN HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

About 12.30 this morning, it was discovered that a fire had broken out in a house in the central part of Hollywood Road, No. 117. The alarm was sounded very soon after, and the Government and Volunteer Fire Brigades were quickly upon the spot with their engines. It was no easy task to get these up the hill. The No. 2 Government steam engine was stationed upon the Praya, to supply water to No. 4, which took up a position in the Queen's Road. No. 3 was brought up the Hollywood Road and worked from a hydrant in the street within a few yards of the burning house. The Insurance engine was brought up the Queen's Road but did not work, as it was found unnecessary. Several of the Chinese manuals were also upon the ground but were not required, the marine steam engine being also brought up alongside the Praya wall, ready to render assistance should it be required. Before the engines could be got to work the fire had obtained a good hold on the building in which it originated, and blazed up fiercely for a short time. As soon as the hoses, however, were brought to bear upon the burning building the flames considerably decreased in violence. It was from the first impossible to save the house, which was completely gutted, but by playing upon the walls and roofs of the adjoining buildings the fire was successfully limited to the one house. There was considerable difficulty in getting at the back of the burning building, but after the fire had been partially extinguished at the front some of the members of the Brigade, at considerable risk, crossed the burning embers and got a hose to work at the back of the premises. By 2 a.m. the fire had been got well in hand, and by 3 o'clock, when some of the engines returned to quarters, it was almost completely extinguished. The Superintendent of the Government Fire Brigade, Mr. H. K. Wodehouse, the new Acting Assistant Superintendent, Inspector Gey, Mr. J. S. Brewer, Engineer, were most active in superintending the operations and were efficiently and energetically supported by the foremen and men of the Brigade.

The house in which the fire occurred was a two-story building, the ground floor of which was a draper's shop, rented by two men named Ayun and Ahon. The upper floor was used as a school for girls, in connection with the Baxter's Girls' Mission. There appear to be some suspicious circumstances connected with the origin of the fire. Before the alarm was given one of the partners in the drapery shop was seen by some of the neighbouring inhabitants leaving the shop with a box in his possession, and as he left he gave the alarm of 'thieves' and not 'fire,' as would be imagined. He also appears to have left without arousing a poor woman who was sleeping in a room at the back of the house, and who, when she was at last awakened by the noise of the fire found the whole of the front part of the house in flames and her retreat cut off. Fortunately a window at the back was situated about six feet above the roofs of a row of houses in Circular Pathway, and she succeeded in dropping safely on to the roof below, and so escaped. A little girl who was in the upper part of the house also had

a narrow escape, and is believed to have received some injuries in getting out of the burning building, but as she was taken away to some friend's house before the Police arrived, particulars are not known. The value of the property destroyed is estimated at \$800, and it is a significant fact that the goods in the draper's shop on the ground floor were recently insured in a German office here for \$2,500. We understand that nothing has yet been seen of the two partners in the shop, though the Police have been looking for them. From appearances it is believed that the fire started about the middle of the shop on the ground floor and several indications of the presence of kerosene are said to have been noticed.

COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION.

We are requested by the Honorary Secretary (Mr. H. E. Wodehouse) to state that the work in connection with the local branch of the forthcoming Exhibition is progressing.

Arrangements have been made for the following details:—

1.—A collection will be made of samples of all the principal articles of export that constitute the current commerce of the Colony. This important collection will be under the superintendence of Mr. Wodehouse, of the Hongkong Dispensary, and it is hoped may indirectly stimulate the trade of the Colony between the Australian colonies and elsewhere.

2.—The Surveyor General is making a collection of implements used by Carpenters, Blacksmiths, Turners, Stone-cutters, Bricklayers and Plumbers.

3.—Mr. Gilles, of the Hongkong and Wharfedale Dock Co., furnishes models of the Kowloon docks, and of boats frequenting the docks.

4.—Mr. Lockhart, in conjunction with Messrs H. McCallum, Best and Turner, has undertaken to furnish a collection illustrating by means of models the various modes of fishing practised by the Chinese in this Colony.

5.—Mr. Ford exhibits a collection of woods and vegetables, including all such as are of trade value to the Colony.

6.—Lieut. D'Aeth is preparing an exhibition of the fisheries of the island, showing by means of models the various modes of fishing practised by the Chinese in this Colony.

7.—The drugs and Chinese pharmacopoeia are under the superintendence of Dr. Ho Kai.

8.—The industries of the Colony are being considered, but it is too early yet to commence to collect exhibits.

9.—The granite collection is under the superintendence of the Surveyor General.

10.—Various matters in connection with colours and Chinese art are under the superintendence of Mr. Conright.

11.—Provision has also been made for exhibits of manufactures as carried on in the Colony.

In no instance are any of the foregoing exhibits in an advanced state, unless in the case of the Dock Company's models, but there is no reason to think that they will not be ready to hand by the end of the year, which is the period fixed by which they should be sent in.

In a matter so novel to this Colony as the organization of an exhibition there is naturally some difficulty, and the Commission will gladly receive suggestions and offers of help from any one kind enough to volunteer them.

In order that the scope and object of the exhibition may be well borne in mind, the memorandum drawn up by the Imperial Commission is reproduced for general information.

A local exhibition will be held in the Colony before the goods are forwarded to London.

A notice that has been prepared for circulation amongst the Chinese community is also given below.

MEMORANDUM relative to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, to be held in London in the year 1886, for the consideration of the Government of Hongkong.

Marlborough House, London, S.W., 24th November, 1884.

The Official Gazette of the 18th of November, 1884, a copy of which is enclosed, notifies that Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to nominate a Royal Commission for the purpose of organizing and carrying out in London, during the year 1886, an Exhibition of the Products, Manufactures and Resources of the Colonial and Indian Empire.

In assuming the active Presidency of this Commission, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in connection with the fact of his having the opportunity of bringing prominently under notice the development and progress which have been made in the various parts of the British Empire, and His Royal Highness trusts that a more intimate knowledge may thus be obtained of the vast field for enterprise which exists throughout the British Dominions.

It has been already stated that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales intends to take the same Executive part as in the case of the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1878, and His Royal Highness has, with the consent of Her Majesty's Government, selected Sir Philip Curzon, Bart., K.C.M.G., C.B., C.I.E., Director of the South Kensington Museum, to act as Secretary to the Royal Commission. His Royal Highness intends, in any matter of special importance, to address himself personally to the Executive Commissioners of the respective Colonies; but he would be obliged by all general correspondence being carried on with the Secretary to the Royal Commission.

As regards the method of representation to be adopted by each Colony or group of Colonies at the Exhibitions His Royal Highness specially wishes that, if possible, a single Executive Commissioner should be appointed, with whom might be associated, if necessary, not more than two or three Assistant-Commissioners.

The Secretary to the Royal Commission will be prepared to act on behalf of any Colony which may not find it convenient to appoint an independent Commissioner.

An exact date cannot be fixed at this early period, but the Exhibition will probably be opened during the first fortnight in May, 1886. With the ample time which is being given to all those concerned, it is sincerely to be hoped that the work of installation may be complete at least a fortnight previous to the date of opening.

As the object of this Exhibition is to represent the progress and the development of each Colony, it has been considered impracticable to call upon the Colonial Gov-

ernments to comply with any form of Classification, as has been the custom at previous Exhibitions. Each Colony is, therefore, at liberty to make a classification most suitable to its own requirements.

In furtherance of this idea, His Royal Highness trusts that each Government will take an early opportunity of preparing a Catalogue of the objects intended for exhibition, which, it is requested, may, for the sake of uniformity, be modelled somewhat on the principle of the excellent specimen, more especially as regards size of page and style of type. It would considerably facilitate this object if each Government were to have its Catalogue printed in London, by Messrs. William Clowes & Sons, Limited, the Official Printers and Publishers to the Exhibition; but it is necessary that the Royal Commission should receive, as soon as practicable, a digest of the Catalogue of each Colony in order that it may be embodied in a General Catalogue of the whole Exhibition, which will be published by the Commission.

Many points of interest will doubtless present themselves to the various Colonies; but His Royal Highness especially desires that a full and complete list of each Colony, carrying the information to 1885, should be prepared in a clear and readable form, so as to render this valuable information easily understood by the working classes of this country. Maps especially prepared for the information of the public, should also, as far as possible, be prominently shown in the various Courts. It is hoped that these statistics, as well as the maps on a reduced scale, will be largely made use of in the Catalogues.

Much interest is taken in this country in the Woods of the various Colonies, and His Royal Highness would be glad to find that where Cases are required for the display of goods, these Cases should be made from the native Woods of the Colony, in order that a complete representation of the Woods of the British Empire may be practically shown.

With reference to the building Stones and Marbles of the Colonies, it is suggested that they should be sent over in the form of Pedestals, executed in accordance with the appended sketch, and thereby adding uniformity, and rendering the specimens of commercial value.

As it is possible that the various Colonial Governments participating in the Exhibition may desire, as its outcome, that a permanent Colonial Museum should be founded in London, it has been suggested that strong reasons exist for showing the adaptability of its products, generally, in as practical a manner as possible; hence it is desirable that the Raw Product should be displayed in connection with the Manufactured Articles.

It has been decided that Commemorative Medals should be given to all those taking part in the Exhibition; and it is hoped to have the assistance of specialists of known repute who will commence to make, at the opening of the Exhibition, exhaustive Reports on the various Colonies as represented in the Exhibition. These Reports, issued at an early stage, will take the place of the Jury systems of previous Exhibitions.

Before issuing this Memorandum, reference may briefly be made to special features which His Royal Highness has in view for the general advantage of the Exhibiting Governments.

It is intended to form a Library and Reading Room, where all Literature relating to the Colonies and India, that it may be possible to collect, may be at hand for reference. Not only will contributions be asked for from the Colonial Governments, but also from Home publishers.

Special arrangements will be provided for the practical illustration, in one special kitchen, of all the Colonial Frozen Meat Industries, and of the Colonial Preserved Meats, Fish and Vegetables. This department will be carried out by the Royal Commission itself, in order that the due participation of the various interests concerned may be maintained.

There will also be a Colonial Fruit and Vegetable Market, which it is hoped that each Government will make arrangements to supply by monthly shipments. This department will be under the control of the Royal Commission.

An Exhibition of Colonial Wines will be organized by the Royal Commission.

A limited space will also be set apart for the exhibition of Living Animals from the Colonies.

In assuming the control of these various departments, the Royal Commission wishes to afford to the actual Producers the advantages of a fair display in the Exhibition. The Importers will, no doubt, hereafter benefit, but the interests of the Producers, as Exhibitors, are of the first consideration; and it may be here mentioned that these departments, as well as generally throughout the Exhibition, only bona fide Colonists can, through their respective Governments, participate in the Exhibition. It will not, therefore, be possible for the Royal Commission to entertain any application, upon any pretence whatever, from Colonial Importers or Agents in this country.

BY ORDER.

Notice for Circulation amongst the Chinese Community.

The British Government has determined to hold an exhibition in London in the year 1886 of the products, manufactures and resources of the British Colonies and of India.

The object of the exhibition is to ascertain the progress that has been made by the colonies since their commencement. The Colony of Hongkong will be represented in this exhibition, and His Excellency the Governor, with the consent of Her Majesty's Government, has selected Sir Philip Curzon, Bart., K.C.M.G., C.B., C.I.E., Director of the South Kensington Museum, to act as Secretary to the Royal Commission. His Royal Highness intends, in any matter of special importance, to address himself personally to the Executive Commissioners of the respective Colonies; but he would be obliged by all general correspondence being carried on with the Secretary to the Royal Commission.

The Commission confidently rely upon the Chinese to do their utmost to make the exhibition a success, and will be glad to assist them in any way that can be pointed out. In order that there may be some system in the mode of exhibiting, the Commission request the Chinese willing to exhibit will notify the Honorary Secretary (Mr. Wodehouse), so that a suitable collection may be selected. All articles will be of interest, and the Commission hope that all sections of the Chinese will come forward readily.

Any exhibitor being desirous of having his exhibits sent by ship to the Exhibition, the Honorary Secretary to that effect, and they will be marked accordingly 'For Sale.' As there will be a great concourse in London to view the Exhibition, many of the things exhibited, such as black-work furniture, silk goods, gold and silver jewellery, crockery ware, ivory carvings, hand-bell ornaments, &c., would be likely to find a ready sale, and some of the traders may like to set up temporary shops in the Exhibition.

For the convenience of any one wishing to do so, the Commission will appoint an Agent in London who will receive the goods and forward them to the Exhibition upon receiving an order of admittance from the Executive Commissioner in London. The goods of the exhibitor would either be returned to China or put up to auction in London, where there is little doubt that they would fetch a good price. The goods should be of the best quality and of not too exorbitantly high prices.

Mr. Wong Shing, Mr. Li Ching Cheung, Dr. Ho Kai, and Mr. Wei Kai are members of the Commission, and will be very happy to give any information that may be required. The Exhibition is under the immediate superintendence of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who is personally anxious for all the Colonies to be properly represented, and in every instance each Colony has promised to exert itself to the utmost.

With regard to the freight, insurance, and other expenses, the Commission propose that the whole of these be borne by the Commission in the first instance, a guarantee fund being formed from which to defray the expenses that may be incurred. This would require, however, only tickets forwarded for sale to the agents in London would be sent at the sole cost and risk of the Consignors.

The Commission hope that the Chinese will themselves contribute to the guarantee fund, and join with the Europeans in raising this fund to a vast amount. The goods desired to obtain promises to a total sum of twenty thousand dollars. The Honorary Secretary should be furnished with notices of intending exhibitors not later than the 30th June.

For the convenience of any one wishing to do so, the Commission will appoint an Agent in London who will receive the goods and forward them to the Exhibition upon receiving an order of admittance from the Executive Commissioner in London.

The goods of the exhibitor would either be returned to China or put up to auction in London, where there is little doubt that they would fetch a good price. The goods should be of the best quality and of not too exorbitantly high prices.

Mr. Wong Shing, Mr. Li Ching Cheung, Dr. Ho Kai, and Mr. Wei Kai are members of the Commission, and will be very happy to give any information that may be required. The Exhibition is under the immediate superintendence of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who is personally anxious for all the Colonies to be properly represented, and in every instance each Colony has promised to exert itself to the utmost.

With regard to the freight, insurance, and other expenses, the Commission propose that the whole of these be borne by the Commission in the first instance, a guarantee fund being formed from which to defray the expenses that may be incurred. This would require, however, only tickets forwarded for sale to the agents in London would be sent at the sole cost and risk of the Consignors.

The Commission hope that the Chinese will themselves contribute to the guarantee fund, and join with the Europeans in raising this fund to a vast amount. The goods desired to obtain promises to a total sum of twenty thousand dollars. The Honorary Secretary should be furnished with notices of intending exhibitors not later than the 30th June.

Police Intelligence.

(Before H. E. Wodehouse, Esq.)
Friday, May 15.

LOOKING AT THE FIRE.

A number of Chinamen were brought up charged with stealing clothing and other property from premises in the neighbourhood of the scene of the fire at Hollywood Road this morning. A hawker named Awun was convicted of stealing a bundle of clothing worth \$3 from the Kum On Leung shop, near the burning house, and was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour. A Chinese pedlar named Lo Ahap was charged with stealing a bundle of clothing belonging to a resident of a house near the fire. A trader named Li Ahun was also charged with stealing a clock and a dressing case, and a tailor named Lo Ahap with stealing a bundle of clothing during the fire. These two cases were remanded.

